

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Amend the Abstract as follows:

4/24  
A double layer perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a high medium S/N ratio at a recording density of 50 Gb/in<sup>2</sup> or higher and a magnetic storage apparatus with a lower error rate and excellent reliability are ~~provided.~~ obtained with ~~In a perpendicular magnetic recording medium in which~~ a structure having soft magnetic underlayer 12, an intermediate layer 13 and a perpendicular magnetic recording layer 14 ~~are~~ sequentially formed on a substrate 11. ~~The,~~ the intermediate layer 13 is made to be a non-magnetic amorphous alloy, in which Ni is a main component and Zr is contained, and the soft magnetic underlayer 12 is constituted of ferromagnetic nano-crystals precipitated by annealing.